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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/12/2016

TAGS: PREL PHUM UNGA UNSC GT AE

SUBJECT: UNGA ISSUES: UAE CONTINUES TO SUPPORT GUATEMALA

REF: STATE 169226 (NEA cable on UNSC election)

B) STATE 168341 (UNGA issues)

C) ABU DHABI 3538 (Support for Guatemala in UNSC)

Classified by Charge Martin Quinn, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) PolChief raised ref B UNGA points in an extensive conversation with MFA Director of International Organizations Yacub Al-Hosani on October 10. Al-Hosani clearly understood the U.S. position on each of the issues mentioned and appreciated the talking points, yet offered limited commentary. On the issue of Guatemala's candidacy for a UNSC seat, he said that UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah had met with his Guatemalan counterpart on the margins of the UNGA in September and that the UAE remained committed to support Guatemala (ref C). PolChief urged Al-Hosani to encourage other Middle East delegations to vote similarly and to continue support for Guatemala in subsequent rounds of voting if required.

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